

FISCAL NOTE

SB 2121 - HB 2378

February 8, 2002

SUMMARY OF BILL:

- Permits the Commissioner of Education to require schools and school systems to include in their improvement plans strategies to ensure progress toward the goals and requirements established pursuant to this part and Title 49, Chapter 6, Part 10.
- Requires the Commissioner of Education to recommend by September 30 of each year to the State Board of Education, a listing of all schools or systems to be placed on notice or probation for failure to make adequate progress in meeting the rules and regulations of the State Board or the performance standards in current law. The State Board could make additions or deletions to the list. After completing its review, the State Board shall direct the Commissioner of Education to place on one year's notice or on probation any schools not making adequate progress.
- If a school is on probation for academic reasons, the Director of Schools and the local board of education shall allow transfer of students from the school on probation to a school that is not on notice or probation as capacity permits. The local board shall notify parents of this enrollment option.
- If an individual school remains on probation after two consecutive years, the Commissioner of Education shall recommend a plan to the State Board to remedy the deficiency of such school. The commissioner shall forward copies of such plans to the Joint Oversight Committee on Education and the Office of Education Accountability.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase Local Govt. Expenditures - Not Significant

Estimate assumes:

- There could be a shift in local government revenues and expenditures to the extent students are allowed to transfer from a school on probation to another school or school system. Any increase in expenditures would be dependent upon how many students are allowed to transfer; whether a student is transferring from one school to another school within the same school system or whether a student is transferring from one system to another system. If students transfer within the same

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school system, any increase in local government expenditures is estimated to be not significant. If students transfer from one system to another system, in the first year, the recipient system would absorb any cost associated with the transferring students. In the second and subsequent years, the BEP would be adjusted to reflect the increase in student enrollment in the recipient system since funding follows the student and the BEP is paid to systems based on prior year enrollments.

- The overall number of students will remain the same.
- Students could *only* transfer as capacity permits.
- If a school remains on probation after two consecutive years, in the third year of probation, local government expenditures could increase or decrease depending upon the plan that is recommended to remedy the deficiency of such school on probation. Such plan could include reallocating existing resources, replacing an ineffective administrator, restructuring the school day, placing more emphasis on teaching basic skills, or making an effort to hire better qualified teachers. The net effect on local government expenditures is estimated to be not significant.
- Providing copies of the approved plans to the Joint Oversight Committee on Education and the Office of Education Accountability is estimated to be not significant.

Note: *Public Chapter 343 of the Acts of 2001, which was not funded, contained the same or similar language.*

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James A. Davenport, Executive Director